

What is claimed is:

1. A lighting unit comprising:

a pushbutton;

5 a switch device for performing electrical ON-OFF by depressing said pushbutton;

an EL device including a light-emitting section corresponding to said pushbuttons provided to at least one of above and under said switch device,

10 wherein the light-emitting section of said EL device includes at least one of an optically transparent electrode layer and a backplate layer, formed partially on an optically transparent insulating base, and both of the layers and a light-emitting layer, selectively laminated on the optically transparent insulating base.

15 2. The lighting unit of claim 1, wherein said EL device includes another light-emitting section corresponding to a display device placed beside said pushbutton.

3. The lighting unit of claim 1, further comprising:

20 an optically transparent intermediate electrode layer selectively laminated between the optically transparent electrode layer and the backplate layer; and

a first light-emitting layer provided between the optically transparent electrode layer and the intermediate electrode layer, and a second
25 light-emitting layer provided between the intermediate electrode layer and the backplate layer, wherein the first layer emits light in different color from the second layer.

4. A lighting apparatus comprising:

5 said lighting unit, as defined in claim 1 or claim 3, for illuminating said pushbuttons; and

a control circuit, coupled to said lighting unit, for controlling light emission from said EL device.

5. The lighting apparatus of claim 4, wherein said control circuit controls said EL device by depressing a predetermined pushbutton.

6. A lighting apparatus comprising:

10 said lighting unit, as defined in claim 2, for illuminating said display device; and

15 a control circuit, coupled to said lighting unit, for controlling light emission from said EL device.

7. The lighting apparatus of claim 6, wherein said control circuit controls said EL device by depressing a predetermined pushbutton.